

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for printing monochrome pages with one color and colored pages with multiple colors comprising:
 - 5 generating an electronic document file having data signals representative of sequential pages in the document;
 - providing data signals for each page representative of whether the page is a monochrome page or a colored page;
 - 10 providing a plurality of printers including a monochrome printer and a color printer;
 - selecting at least one monochrome printer and one color printer;
 - without creating a new document, sending the monochrome pages to a selected monochrome printer and sending the color pages to a selected color printer.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the monochrome pages and the colored pages are printed asynchronously.
3. The method of claim 1 comprising the further step of collating the monochrome and the colored pages in the same sequence as found in the electronic document.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing a plurality of printers further comprises:
 - storing a list of all available monochrome and color printers;
 - 25 selecting a subset of monochrome and color printers from the list;
 - displaying on a menu the selected subset of monochrome and color printers.
- 30 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sending the monochrome pages to a selected monochrome printer and sending the color pages to a selected color printer further comprises:

using a single selection action by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for the selected monochrome printer and the selected color printer;

- 5 using a single selection action by an operator, accepting a selection of one of the printers from an operator;
marking one or more pages to be printed on the selected printer.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the single selection action by an operator for displaying a selection menu comprises one or more mouse selections.

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7. The method of claim 5 wherein the single selection action by an operator for selecting one of the printers comprises one or more mouse selections.

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of sending the monochrome pages to a selected monochrome printer and sending the color pages to a selected color printer further comprises:

using a single key depression or mouse selection by a user, displaying a selection menu containing entries for a class of monochrome printers and a class of color printers;

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accepting a selection of one of the classes of printers from the user;
marking one or more pages to be printed using the selected class of printers.

using a single selection action by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for printers in the selected class of printers;

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using a single selection action by an operator, accepting a selection of one of the printers from the operator;
marking one or more pages to be printed on the selected printer.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the single selection action by an operator for displaying a selection menu comprises one or more mouse selections.

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10. The method of claim 8 wherein the single selection action by an operator for selecting one of the printers comprises one or more mouse selections.
11. A method for printing a document with pages having different printing attributes comprising:
 - 5 generating an electronic document file having data signals representative of sequential pages wherein each page has at least one of a selected number of printing attributes;
 - 10 providing data signals for each page representative of the printing attributes of the page;
 - 15 providing a plurality of printers including at least one printer capable of printing pages with the selected printing attributes;
 - without creating a new document, sending the attributed pages of the document to a printer capable of printing the printing attributes of the page.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein the pages having different attributes are printed asynchronously.
13. The method of claim 11 comprising the further step of collating the pages having different attributes with each other into the same sequence of pages as found in the electronic document.
14. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of providing a plurality of printers further comprises:
 - 25 storing a list of all available printers;
 - selecting a subset of printers with required attributes from the list;
 - displaying on a menu the selected subset of printers with required attributes.
- 30 15. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of sending the attributed pages of the document to a printer capable of printing the printing attributes of the page further comprises:

- using a single selection action by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for printers possessing desired attributes;
 - using a single selection action by an operator, accepting a selection of one of the printers from an operator;
 - 5 marking one or more pages to be printed on the selected printer.
- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the single selection action by an operator for displaying a selection menu comprises one or more mouse selections.
- 10 17. The method of claim 15 wherein the single selection action by an operator for selecting one of the printers comprises one or more mouse selections.
- 15 18. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of sending the attributed pages of the document to a printer capable of printing the printing attributes of the page further comprises:
 - using a single key depression or mouse selection by a user, displaying a selection menu containing entries for classes of printers possessing desired attributes;
 - accepting a selection of one of the classes of printers from an operator;
 - 20 marking one or more pages to be printed using the class of selected printers.
 - using a single selection action by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for printers in the class selected by the user;
 - 25 using a single selection action by an operator, accepting a selection of one of the printers from an operator;
 - marking one or more pages to be printed on the selected printer.
- 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the single selection action by an operator for displaying a selection menu comprises one or more mouse selections.
- 30 20. The method of claim 18 wherein the single selection action by an operator for selecting one of the printers comprises one or more mouse selections.

21. A method for publishing a document with pages having different presentation attributes comprising:
- generating an electronic document file having data signals representative of sequential pages wherein each page has at least one of a selected number of presentation attributes;
- providing data signals for each page representative of the presentation attributes of the page;
- providing a plurality of output devices including at least one output device capable of producing pages with the selected presentation attributes;
- without creating a new document, sending the attributed pages of the document to an output device capable of producing the presentation attributes of the page.
- 15 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the pages having different attributes are published asynchronously.
23. The method of claim 21 comprising the further step of collating the pages having different attributes with each other into the same sequence of pages as found in the electronic document.
24. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of providing a plurality of output devices further comprises:
- storing a list of all available output devices;
- selecting a subset of output devices with required attributes from the list;
- displaying on a menu the selected subset of output devices with required attributes.
- 25 25. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of sending the attributed pages of the document to an output device capable of producing the presentation attributes of the page further comprises:

- using a single key depression or mouse selection entered by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for output devices possessing desired attributes, and an entry indicating that no presentation is to be made and no output device selected;
- 5 accepting a selection of one of the menu entries from an operator; marking one or more pages to be published on the selected output devices; marking distinctly all pages for which no presentation is to be made and no output device is selected; suppressing the sending to an output device for all pages for which no
- 10 presentation is to be made and no output device is selected.

26. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of sending the attributed pages of the document to an output device capable of producing the presentation attributes of the page further comprises:

- 15 using a single key depression or mouse selection entered by a user, displaying a selection menu containing entries for a class of output devices possessing desired attributes, and an entry indicating that no presentation is to be made and no output device selected; accepting a selection of one of the menu entries from a user;
- 20 marking one or more pages to be published on the selected class of output devices; marking distinctly all pages for which no presentation is to be made and no output device is selected;
- 25 using a single key depression or mouse selection entered by an operator, displaying a selection menu containing entries for output devices in the class selected by the user, and an entry indicating that no presentation is to be made and no output device selected; accepting a selection of one of the menu entries from an operator;
- 30 marking one or more pages to be published on each of the selected output devices; marking distinctly all pages for which no presentation is to be made and no output device is selected;

suppressing the sending to an output device for all pages for which no presentation is to be made and no output device is selected.

27. A printing machine for printing monochrome pages with one color and
5 colored pages with multiple colors comprising:
 - a controller with a central processing unit and a computer program for receiving an electronic document file having data signals representative of sequential pages in the document wherein the data signals for each page are representative of whether the page is a monochrome page or a colored page;
- 10 a plurality of printers including a monochrome printer and a color printer coupled to the controller for electronic signals from the controller to print pages of the document;
- 15 said computer program in said controller operable to select at least one monochrome printer and one color printer without creating a new document, and sending the monochrome pages to a selected monochrome printer and sending the color pages to a selected color printer.
28. The printing machine of claim 27 wherein the monochrome pages and the colored pages are printed asynchronously.
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29. The printing machine of claim 27 further comprising an inserter for collating the monochrome and the colored pages in the same sequence as found in the electronic document.
- 25 30. The printing machine of claim 27 wherein the computer program includes a list of all available monochrome and color printers, a command for selecting a subset of monochrome and color printers from the list and a command for displaying a menu of monochrome and color printers.
- 30 31. A printing machine for printing a document with pages having different printing attributes comprising:

- means for reading an electronic document file having data signals representative of sequential pages wherein each page has at least one of a selected number of printing attributes;
- means for providing data signals for each page representative of the printing attributes of the page;
- means for asynchronously printing different pages of the document without creating a new document.
32. The printing machine of claim 31 wherein the pages having different attributes are printed asynchronously.
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33. The printing machine of claim 31 further comprising means for collating the pages having different attributes with each other into the same sequence of pages as found in the electronic document.
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34. The printing machine of claim 31 further comprising:
- means for storing a list of all available printers;
- means for selecting a subset of printers with required attributes from the list;
- means for displaying on a menu the selected subset of printers with required attributes.
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35. The printing machine of claim 31 further comprising:
- means for using a single key depression or mouse selection by an operator,
- 25 displaying a selection menu containing entries for printers possessing desired attributes;
- means for accepting a selection of one of the printers from an operator;
- means for marking one or more pages to be printed on the selected printer.
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